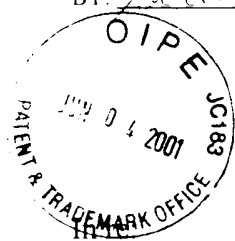


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.

BY: [Signature]

DATE: May 11, 2001

BOX FEE AMENDMENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of	: Group Art Unit: 1642
Skurkovich <i>et al.</i>	:
	:
Appln. No.: 09/487,979	: Examiner: S. Ungar
	:
Filed: January 20, 2000	:
	: Attorney Docket
For: TREATMENT OF AUTOIMMUNE	: No. 0011-1U9
DISEASES, INCLUDING AIDS	: (53663-5001-09)

THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment accompanies a Response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 6, 2000 (Paper No. 3), in the above-captioned application.

Kindly amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 34, 35 and 38, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 33, without prejudice, as indicated on the marked up version of the claim submitted herewith. Deletions are indicated with brackets, and additions are underlined. A clean copy of the amended claim is also submitted herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 33 and 37 are pending in the present application.

In the accompanying Response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 6, 2000, Applicants elected the claims of Group II, claims 33-35, 37, 38. Further, in response to a species requirement with respect to claims 33-35, Applicants elected a specified group of autoimmune inhibitors consisting of an antibody to gamma interferon, an antibody to alpha interferon, and an antibody to tumor necrosis factor. Claim 33 has been amended herein to comply with the above species requirement and to reflect the election of the group recited above. Claims 34, 35 and 38 have been canceled herein, as these claims contain subject matter that has been eliminated by way of the species election.

No new matter has been added by way of this amendment.

Favorable examination of the claims on the merits is respectfully requested.